Amendments to the Specification

Please replace paragraph 18 with the following amended text:

In some speech recognition tasks, the number of word sequences that are recognizable by a speech recognizer is limited. One example application of such constrained speech recognition may be a home entertaining center where voice commands ~~may used~~ <u>may be used</u> to control home appliances. In this scenario, there may be a small set of commands such as "dim the light" or "lower the volume of the television". Each of such commands corresponds to a sequence of words. To understand these voice commands, a constrained speech recognizer may be deployed that recognizes spoken words according to a constrained language model that defines specific sequences of words, each of those sequences of words corresponds to a command. For example, the command "dim the light" is a sequence of three words "dim", "the", "light" that are arranged in a specified order or pattern.

Please replace paragraph 24 with the following amended text:

Each state in a finite state machine may branch into different paths and each branching path may be specified (modeled) according to a probability. For example, in Fig. 3, state 325 corresponding to word "weather" may transit to two different states (depending on the input speech 105). One is state 330 corresponding ~~to work~~ <u>to word</u> "in" and state 365 corresponding to word "back", where the former transit is specified with a high probability 0.93 and the latter is specified with a low probability 0.07. Such probability may indicate that 93% of the time, people say "...weather in ..." while only

7% of the time, people say "...weather back...". Such statistics may be obtained and

~~incorporate~~ <u>incorporated</u> into a language model based on statistical training.